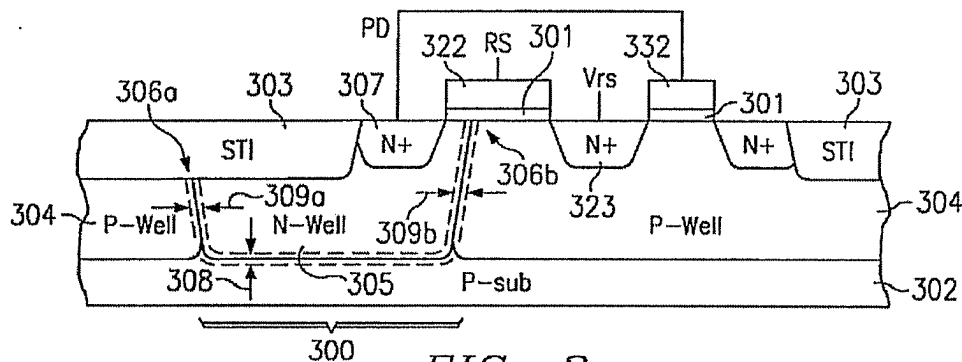


REMARKS

Claims 1 to 19 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 13-19 have been added. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 have been amended. No new matter is added by the amendments.

Claims 1 to 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,392,263 Chen et al. (hereinafter "Chen"). Applicants respectfully submit that Chen does not render obvious claims 1 to 7. Claim 1 includes the feature of the source region extending beyond the doped region of the photosensitive element. Claim 4 includes the feature of the doped region of the photosensitive element being separated from the well region by a distance. Chen fails to disclose or suggest these features of claims 1 and 4.

The Office Action relies upon Fig. 3 of Chen for disclosing a p-type semiconductor body 302, with cells comprising photodiode PD and reset transistor RS at the surface of the body. The Office Action asserts that the structure of Fig. 3 discloses the features of claims 1 to 7. Fig. 3 of Chen is as follows:



As can be seen above, the Chen source region 307 is completely within the doped region 305 of the photodiode. Additionally, the Chen doped region 305 of the photodiode is adjacent to, and abuts against, the well region 304. There is no motivation to modify the

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Chen device with the features of Claim 1 of the source region extending beyond the doped region of the photosensitive element or the feature of claim 4 of the doped region of the photosensitive element being separated from the well region by a distance. Chen describes using the structure of FIG. 3 to eliminate the n+ diffusion of any n-well contact to increase the density of integration. (Chen col. 6, lines 1-9).

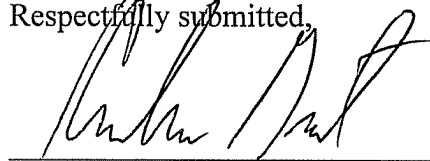
Claims 2-3, 5-7, and 13-19 depend from claims 1 and 4, respectively and thus are also not obvious over Chen.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification, the drawings and all claims presented in this application are currently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

Dated: 10/23/07

Respectfully submitted,



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